

Serial No.: 10/648,803
Docket No.: 66929-003

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REMARKS

This Amendment is in response to the Office Action of April 19, 2006 in which the Examiner rejected certain claims over Suter. Claim 19 is allowable.

Applicant wishes to thank the Examiner for the opportunity to discuss the claims and cited reference. Applicant filed a full translation of the reference on June 12, 2006. Thereafter, the Examiner discussed the reference with Applicant's representative. Applicant proposed amendment to define the tube as a separate element. Applicant pointed out language in the reference which seems to indicate that the idea of a separate tube would not be advantageous. The Examiner agreed to consider the point and to discuss the reference with his supervisor.

On July 5, 2006, the Examiner indicated that amendments to the claims which would define the diameter of the membrane as greater than the thickness thereof and less than the diameter of the stopper would render the claims allowable.

Applicant has amended claims 1, 9, 12 and 18 to include the Applicant's earlier proposed language regarding the separate tube and the Examiner's proposed language regarding the dimensions of the membrane.

Claims 20 and 21 have been cancelled without prejudice.

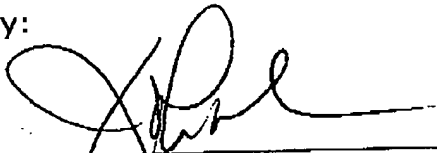
In view of the foregoing it is respectfully requested that the Examiner pass the claims to issue.

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If additional fees are required, the Director is authorized to charge deposit account 04-2233 for any deficiency or credit any overpayment thereto.

Respectfully submitted,
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By:



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